<u>Abstract</u>

The present invention provides a method for preparing betulin-3-acetate including alcoholyzing betulin 3,28 dibenzoate; a process for preparing betulin-3-acetate including: (1) acylating betulin to provide betulin 3,28-dibenzoate and (2) alcoholyzing betulin 3,28-dibenzoate to provide betulin-3-acetate; and a process for preparing betulinic acid including: (1) acylating betulin to provide betulin 3,28-dibenzoate; (2) alcoholyzing betulin 3,28-dibenzoate to provide betulin-3-acetate; (3) oxidizing betulin-3-acetate to provide betulinic aldehyde-3-acetate; (4) oxidizing betulinic aldehyde-3-acetate to provide betulinic acid-3-acetate; and (5) deprotecting betulinic acid-3-acetate to provide betulinic acid.

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